

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/714,341

Examiner

Jaworski Francis J.

Applicant(s)

MURASHITA, MASARU

Art Unit

3737

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to IDSs 11/14/03, 4/12/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 - 18.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 14 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 04122004, 11142003
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Francis J. Jaworski
Primary Examiner

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Kishimoto et al (US5465721) is directed to defining the intra-ventricular volume using paired intersections of scanline segments passing through the ventricular wall. Sheehan et al (US6106466) is directed to automated heart border boundary identification by using an abstract mesh having control vertices associated with anatomic landmarks. Taylor (US6491632) is directed to the use of a target plate having orthogonal reference lines for determining a view transformation matrix for displayed ultrasound data. Remaining citations on the accompanying PTO-892 pertain to 3D boundary detection or to elliptical or body model use for defining a region of interest. None of the prior art alone or in combination teaches or suggests a boundary unit for finding target tissue boundaries within voxel data along intersecting first and second reference lines or orthogonal such lines based upon intersecting plane relationships together with a shape parameter calculator unit for calculating plural shape parameters for specifying a three-dimensional region of interest or with an axis setting unit for setting first, second and third axes based upon the reference lines and an ROI setting unit for setting the ROI based upon the plurality of shape parameters or the axes set by the setting unit.

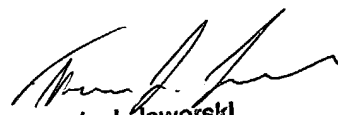
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Jaworski
Francis J. at telephone number 703-308-3061.

FJJ:fjj

11-24-2004


Francis J. Jaworski
Primary Examiner